

### *House Passes Bill to Fund Education Jobs, Address State Budget Shortfalls*

U.S. Representative Rush Holt (NJ-12) today joined a majority in providing emergency funding to keep teachers in the classroom and to provide states with funding to reduce budget shortfalls. The bill includes \$268 million to keep an estimated 3,900 teachers in the classroom in New Jersey, including 159 in Holt's 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, which includes parts of Franklin, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, and Monmouth Counties. President Obama is expected to sign the bill into law today.

"Children should be given every opportunity to receive an excellent education. New Jersey students shouldn't be punished because of budgetary constraints, and this funding will help reduce class sizes and keep good teachers in the classrooms and off the unemployment rolls."

On Monday, the New Jersey School Boards Association released a survey which found that 80 percent of school districts expected to have fewer teachers, including nearly 50 percent of school districts that lost up to 5 percent of last year's staffing levels.